

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY S:LSEAGLEBURGER:ML

APPROVED BY S - MR. EAGLEBURGER

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 209303 TOSEC 100504

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM EAGLEBURGER

1. SENATOR STENNIS JUST CALLED TO SAY THAT HE HAS THOUGHT MORE ABOUT THE MIDDLE EAST AGREEMENT AND "WITHOUT PUSHING YOU AT ALL" WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT YOU APPEAR BEFORE HIS "FULL REPEAT FULL" COMMITTEE SOMETIME NEXT WEEK. HE SAID HE KNEW HOW TERRIBLY BUSY YOU WOULD BE BUT THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE A VERY WISE IDEA. HE SAID AS WELL THAT HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF HE COULD ANNOUNCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THAT YOU HAVE AGREED TO APPEAR SO THAT "IT DOESN'T LOOK AS IF KISSINGER AND I HAVE BEEN PUSHED INTO IT." I DID NOT ASK WHAT THIS MEANT BUT I HAVE TO ASSUME HE AT LEAST MAY BE TELLING US THAT JACKSON (OR SOME ONE OF YOUR OTHER FRIENDS ON HIS COMMITTEE) IS LIKELY TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF IT.

2. I KNOW WHAT HELL YOU ARE GOING TO GO THROUGH NEXT WEEK AND AM VERY RELUCTANT TO PUSH YOU ON YOUR SCHEDULE. NEVER-
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THELESS I REGRETFULLY BUT FORCEFULLY RECOMMEND YOU AUTHORIZE

ME TO TELL STENNIS YOU WILL APPEAR NEXT WEEK. WHILE I THINK HE WOULD LIKE IT EARLIER IN THE WEEK, A REVIEW OF YOUR SCHEDULE LEADS ME TO RECOMMEND WE SUGGEST THURSDAY MORNING.

3. IN FAIRNESS I NEED TO POINT OUT THAT BY AGREEING TO GO BEFORE THE STENNIS COMMITTEE YOU MAY OPEN THE FLOODGATES TO DEMANDS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES, INCLUDING THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE AND PERHAPS THE HOUSE AND SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES, THAT YOU APPEAR BEFORE THEM.

4. IT WOULD BE MUCH CLEANER IF YOU COULD ARGUE THAT YOU WERE UNPREPARED TO APPEAR BEFORE ANYBODY BUT THE IMMEDIATELY RELEVANT FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEES. NEVERTHELESS STENNIS IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH (BOTH IN TERMS OF THE MIDDLE EAST AGREEMENT ITSELF AND IN TERMS OF YOUR MORE GENERAL JACKSON-SALT PROBLEM) THAT I THINK YOU NEED TO TAKE THIS ONE ON.

5. IN SHORT, YOU SHOULD PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A COUPLE OF TOTALLY MISERABLE WEEKS WHILE I TRY TO FIGURE OUT SOME WAY TO BE OUT OF TOWN FOR A SIMILAR PERIOD OF TIME. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE209303
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LSEAGLEBURGER:ML
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P850036-2686, N750004-0132
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750987/aaaaczbe.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 AUG 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <22 AUG 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SCHEDULE
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: SECRETARY SECRETARY AIRCRAFT
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006